

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Method for dispensing liquid fragrances, by using a device with at least one supply line (2) for supplying the fragrance to at least one delivery unit (4, A), wherein the supplied fragrance is converted to an aerosol by applying an electric charge, a high-voltage unit (5) connected to the delivery unit (4, A) for applying the electric charge to the fragrance, a controller (6), and at least one shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V) connected with the controller (6) for shutting off the supply line (2), characterized in that the shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V) and the high-voltage unit (5) are activated with a time offset relative to each other, thereby reducing a quantity of the fragrance disposed inside the supply line (2) between the shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V) and the delivery unit (4, A).
2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the fragrance is distributed by first activating the high-voltage unit (5) and then opening the shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V).
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that when the distribution of the fragrance is concluded and/or interrupted, the shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V) is closed first, whereafter the high-voltage unit (5) is deactivated.
4. Method according to one of the claims 1 to 3, characterized in that a high electric voltage in a range between 0.5 kV and 25 kV is applied to the delivery unit (4, A).
5. Method according to claim 4, characterized in that the applied high electric voltage is in a range between 1.5 kV and 6 kV.

6. Method according to claim 4 or 5, characterized in that the high electric voltage is maintained at a constant level, whereas the volume flow of the fragrance is controlled via the shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V).
7. Method according to claim 6, characterized in that the volume flow is changed by a micropump (3, P).
8. Method according to claim 7, characterized in that the maximum delivery volume of the micropump (3, P) is adjusted to be smaller than or equal to the delivery capacity of the delivery unit (4, A).
9. Method according to one of the claims 1 to 8, characterized in that each delivery unit (A1, A2, A3) is supplied with a different fragrance, wherein the fragrances are separately converted into aerosols by controlling timing or volume.
10. Method according to one of the claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the fragrance is withdrawn via the supply line (2) from an exchangeable fragrance reservoir (1) having a flexible casing.
11. Device for carrying out the method according to one of the claims 1 to 10, with at least one supply line (2) for supplying the fragrance to at least one delivery unit (4, A), wherein the supplied fragrance is converted to an aerosol by applying an electric charge, a high-voltage unit (5) connected to the delivery unit (4, A) for applying the electric charge to the fragrance, a controller (6), and at least one shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V) connected with the controller (6) for shutting off the supply line (2), characterized in that a micropump (3, P) is provided which affects the volume flow of the fragrance, wherein the maximal delivery volume of the micropump (3, P) is smaller than the maximum delivery capacity of the

delivery unit (4, A), so that an amount of the fragrance disposed inside the supply line (2) between the shutoff and actuating element (3, P, V) and the delivery unit (4, A) can be reduced by activating the high-voltage unit (5) and the micropump (3, P) with a time offset.